

# The APACHE Pow Wow

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE SINCE 1927

www.myTJCnews.com

Tyler, Texas

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2014

VOL. 81 NO. 7

## TYLER'S HOMELESS: CAMP PS 91



FAITH Camp PS 91 and supporters pray after a meeting to try and come up with a solution to find a new area to live.

Photo by Favian Quezada

## Living with the homeless, 31 days that were life changing

By Favian Quezada  
Managing Editor

*Editors note: Favian Quezada lived in Tent City and with Camp PS 91. This is the first part of a three part series about his experiences with the residents and time spent homeless.*

Walking across the railroad tracks in the Historic Cotton District near downtown Tyler, there is a thicket of woods where a community, unseen by the public, once lived. Living their lives as normal as possible the people there considered themselves not homeless, but blessed.

I came across the area and people working on a story and mini documentary, about One Night Without A Home, an event held on Nov. 19, 2013 at Bergfeld Park to raise awareness about homelessness. Meeting the people and the group, I decided that I needed to film more than a mini documentary and started production on a full-length documentary.

Formed by residents Shane Troul, Brittany Garza and Tim Harris, Camp PS 91 is a homeless mission camp set up for the homeless by the homeless. With the help of anonymous donors and churches in the area the camp started receiving the necessities needed to survive the elements and began passing them along the trail to the others.

"We stayed here (Tent City) for probably like a month," said Garza, "and Tim showed up. Tim's a good

friend of ours we've known him since we got here he was at the Salvation Army same time we were. And, he told us he had a guy who was really interested in helping and he didn't know how to help, but he had the means."

Staying in the back of Tent City all three got sick. For the next two weeks they ended up staying at a friends house until they got better. Going back to their tent they had a mess to clean up, the rains flooded out their camp and mud was everywhere.

Deciding to switch locations they started gathering more tents, all while the donations began pouring in. With more supporters and supplies coming in, Camp PS 91 started its work helping the residents of Tent City.

"We just put out that we were doing this," said Garza, "you know we could help if anybody wanted it."

After meeting the camp, I brought along CBS 19 photographer, AJ Vega, to help me begin filming. After his experience at the camp, KYTX CBS 19 met with the camp and began running their own stories on the them. The camp caught attention and more and more people and news stations began to take notice.

In December, it seemed everything they had worked for was crashing down. A drunken man had passed out on the tracks and a resident of Tent City pulled the man off the tracks and called 911. This lead to Union Pacific Police coming out and investigating along with Tyler PD.

— see HOMELESS page 3 —

## Officers resign after investigation

By Brian Rhoads  
News Editor

Two TJC Campus Police officers have resigned after officials say they ignored orders from their direct supervisor.

According to records obtained by the Apache Pow Wow through the Freedom of Information Act, Monty Ward and Joshua Lowry, former TJC Campus Police officers, responded to a fight with shots fired at the Varsity Place Apartments, located at 3400 Varsity Drive, at 8:10 p.m. on Nov. 19, 2013. According to several reports, the fight was part of an ongoing incident that started between TJC students on campus earlier in the day.

Officer Ward told his superiors he had received phone calls from multiple TJC student residents who lived at the Varsity Place Apartments that a large fight was starting on the property. Ward is a resident of Varsity Place and was a security guard for the complex. Officer Ward relayed that information to Tyler Police who were now receiving calls on the incident. Minutes later, Tyler PD sent officers to Varsity Place to respond to a large fight in progress with shots fired.

Officer Ward radioed in to his on-duty supervisor, TJC Campus Police Sgt. Mark Pierce, to request a property check that would have allowed him to assist Tyler PD. However, Sgt. Pierce told all officers on duty to remain on campus and to meet with him for further instructions, according to multiple reports from other officers according to the investigation by

Chief Randy Melton and Executive Director of Public Safety Dr. Thomas Johnson.

Sgt. Pierce was attempting to instruct his officers to do a directed patrol in order to safeguard the campus in case any of the students involved came back to TJC. Officer Ward said he never heard that order and then called in on the radio that he was en route to Varsity Place. He responded with lights and sirens to the scene at the apartment complex.

Officer Lowry heard that Ward was en route and followed to back him up, leaving only one officer on campus.

According to the reports filed by Lowry and Ward, when the two officers arrived at Varsity Place they found the roughly 40 people fleeing

the scene, and only one UT-Tyler unit on-scene. Ward and Lowry said they looked around for injured people, as Tyler PD began to show up on the scene. The officers said they then returned to campus. Sgt. B.J. Williams was on the west campus and monitoring radio traffic and reported that he never heard Ward say he was en route back.

According to TJC officials, the officers' actions that night violated the TJC Campus Police Policy Manual.

"Officers Josh Lowry and Monty Ward have been suspended without pay until completion of an investigation concerning their response to a report of a fight off campus Tuesday night. The Tyler PD worked the alleged fight investigation. TJC police were not requested. The officers allegedly left their jurisdiction without cause," said Fred Peters,



Monty Ward



Josh Lowry

director of public affairs and grant development in a statement given to The Apache Pow Wow on Nov. 23.

Chief Randy Melton's investigation into the incident began by requesting a statement from both officers about the events. Both Lowry and Ward declined to comply with the request until they sought legal counsel.

The investigation report from Chief Melton found the two officers in violation of several rules stated in the Code of Conduct,

— see RESIGNATION page 3 —

## Club Benefits: TO JOIN OR NOT TO JOIN

By Melissa Renick  
Student Life Editor

Social, mental, professional, and personal benefits may all be gained by becoming more involved in college.

College campuses offer endless opportunities to get involved during the semester, and according to research, the benefits are substantial. On the TJC campus alone, there are 28 clubs and organizations. There is also the option to create a new club.

"My life would not be the same if it were not for me getting involved," Dean West, executive secretary of student senate said. "I've had many travel opportunities as well as experience from those opportunities."

The Student Senate is responsible for all the clubs and organizations at TJC.

"I attended a conference over resume building and it was hosted by the career center at Texas A&M. So I think that is one of the main things you can get is from those travel opportunities is meeting and networking with those who will give you some insight to which career path you want to pursue," said West.

Educational research, by the National Survey of Student Engagement, shows that there are many benefits from being engaged in social settings such as clubs and organizations.

— see CLUBS page 3 —



Photo by Kevin Ramos

**PARTICIPATION** The Life Challenge Club sings along with a band.

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### Web Exclusives

#### Officers Suspended

Read the full police report obtained by MyTJCnews.

#### Tyler's Homeless

Watch Managing Editor Favian Quezada's YouTube video diary series of his time spent homeless.

Questions or concerns? Email: [tjcnews@tjc.edu](mailto:tjcnews@tjc.edu)



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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Apache Pow Wow invites its readers to share views by writing letters to the editor. All contributions will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (300 words maximum), profanity and personal attacks. All letters must include the author's name, address, telephone number and academic classification. Editors reserve the right to deny publication of any letter. Letters should be e-mailed to tjcnnews@tjc.edu or brought to P204.

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## ADA compliance doesn't mean ease of accessibility

### Column

It's 36 degrees outside and the rain hasn't let up in nearly week. A typical November afternoon at Tyler Junior College. I need to run a quick errand, leaving the third floor of Potter Hall to speak with someone in the Student Life office of Rodger's Student Center. For an able body student it's only a distance of 100 yards or so. For myself, while confined to a wheelchair, it's a much more difficult task.

Potter Hall has four sets of doors students can pass through, cutting across the courtyard, none of them have a handicap button. I have to take the long way around the building before exiting onto campus. Then I have to find a way to attach an umbrella to the wheelchair, so I don't get completely soaked.

After accomplishing that, and not without quite a few students gawking at me, I make my way toward the bookstore ramp, having to get to the first floor of Rodgers to wrestle the broken handicap door on the far side by the Apache rooms. At the back of the building sits the elevator. Once up top I get to dodge random boxes and doors being flung carelessly into



Cory McCoy  
Editor in Chief

hallways. Mission accomplished.

Wait, actually, it isn't. I still have to make my way back to Potter. With no one to help, the incline of the ramps outside Rogers, or Jenkins for that matter, is far too steep for me to manage in the wheelchair while it is pouring down rain.

Handicap accessible does not mean navigation of this large campus has become any easier. None of the bathrooms, that I've seen, are equipped with doors that have handicap buttons and very few of the buildings themselves do.

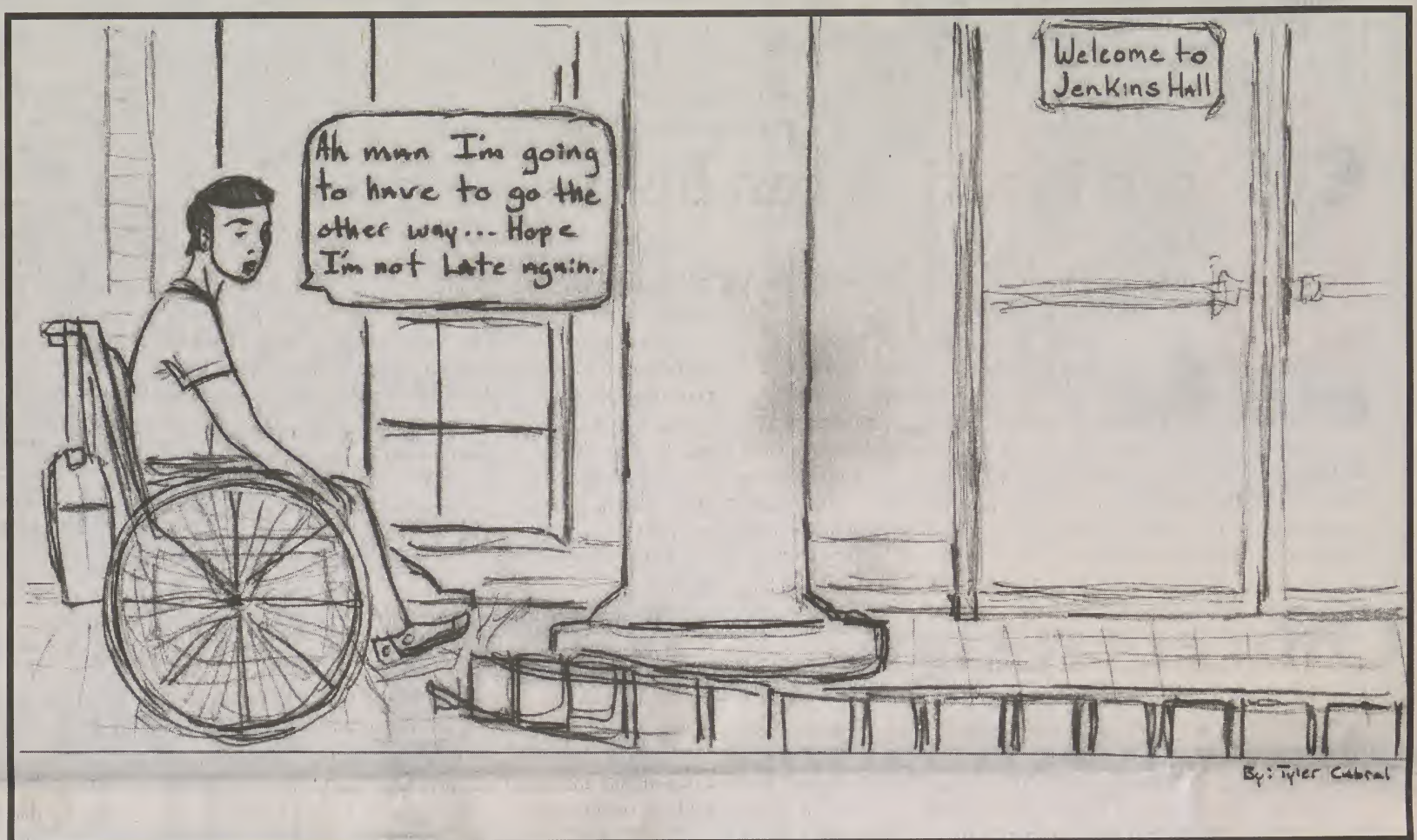
In almost every scenario, if a student with a movement impairment can't move their vehicle between classes, they often have to travel two or three times further. For instance, a student would have to skirt the entire Genecov science building to

get to Pirtle, and that's if they are familiar with the shortcuts.

The Apache Woodlands area has ramps that are more akin to mazes than accessibility entrances. These ramps are made of rough, untreated wood and set in an area hundreds of yards away from the main campus. A walk which includes a number of very steep hills. It would be nearly impossible for a student in a wheelchair to get to the Woodlands unassisted.

Disability Studies Quarterly estimates that 9 percent of all college students have some form of disability covered under the Americans with Disabilities act. Most of these students, some private colleges withstanding, attend colleges that receive federal assistance for their compliance with regulations. TJC.edu describes the school's commitment, "Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) require that public colleges and universities provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations for otherwise qualified students with disabilities."

TJC takes pride in calling itself an accommodating and accessible campus, but is it really?



## Coffee shop combats sex traffickers

### Editorial

A different kind coffee shop will be opening in Tyler on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2014.

A different kind coffee shop will be opening in Tyler on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 2014.

Grounds for Justice, benefiting Refuge of Light, an organization that rescues victims of human sex trafficking in East Texas. Close to TJC, Grounds is located at 2318 E. Fifth Street, near Golden Road.

All profits from Grounds for Justice will be used at Refuge of Light to rescue victims, building them a safe home and funding programs for the home. Anyone interested in volunteering with Refuge of Light can visit <http://refugeoflight.org/about>.

Inside Grounds for Justice you will be able to purchase 'fair trade' coffee, tea, and other items. The term 'fair trade' describes a system of commerce that promotes a sustainable environment, labor rights,

a good wage and healthy working conditions for laborers as well as their families and communities.

Computers literature, pamphlets and other information will be available and handed out on human sex trafficking. Most items have been donated by various groups.

Human trafficking is the second largest, and the fastest growing, criminal activity in the world. Human trafficking or slavery generates \$32 billion annually worldwide according to The International Labor Office.

Within the United States there will be between 100,000 to 300,000 individuals sexually trafficked each year according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Recently KETK interviewed Brent Chambers, a Tyler FBI Special Agent who told them that as of 2012 his office had handled more than 450 cases of sex trafficking here in East Texas. The number has increased dramatically since 2009 when the FBI began focusing more on these types of crimes in East

Texas.

Grounds for Justice presents TJC and Tylerites with a unique opportunity to help curb this heinous crime and it's as simple as buying a cup of Joe.

### REFUGE OF LIGHT

#### The Vision and their mission

The vision of Refuge of light is to transform the broken life into the brilliant life through individualized plans of restoration. To equip these young girls with confidence and the skills to realize and formulate their own vision for a new, healthy and meaningful life.

#### Get Involved

Helping can be as easy as frequenting Grounds for Hope, but if you have more time and motivation, check out <http://refugeoflight.org/involvement>

## TJC COMMENTS We care what you think...

Moving into a dormitory can be a tough transition, what has your experience been like?



"I enjoy taking that step into taking care of myself."

- Hanro Janse van Rensburg  
Sophomore,  
Theatre Major



"Being away from family is really hard when you can't go home ... every little visit is a special occasion."

- Da-Jana Phillips,  
Sophomore,  
Psychology Major



"Not having my dog is a big part ... just not having anyone I can go and talk to."

- Destiny Eaton,  
Freshman,  
Psychology Major



"I'm an international student, so it was a culture that I'm not used to."

- Carlos Cordero,  
Sophomore,  
Engineering Major

## ConnectOnline

The Apache Pow Wow student newspaper welcomes readers to voice their opinions on articles at [myTJCnews.com](http://myTJCnews.com), or by sending a letter to the editor at: [tjcnnews@tjc.edu](mailto:tjcnnews@tjc.edu). Share your opinions on anything concerning students and the TJC community.

Full articles and comments can be found at [myTJCnews.com](http://myTJCnews.com)

## Poll Question

Should students have a say on how student funds are distributed?

To Review The Results Of This Question,

Go To: [www.myTJCnews.com](http://www.myTJCnews.com)



## RESIGNATION

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including ignoring lawful orders from a superior officer and responding with red lights and siren.

This is not the first time Officer Lowry has had issues with the Code of Conduct, according to records.

According to TJC officials in November 2011, he received disciplinary action for unnecessarily drawing and displaying his taser on several occasions. He was given a one-day suspension without pay and placed on 90-day probationary status.

In December 2012, he failed to correct a report when a superior officer asked him to.

Officer Lowry had reported late to work multiple times in December 2012, even failing to show up for work at all on Nov. 13, 2012.

On Dec. 7, 2012 there was a citizen's complaint filed against Lowry concerning rudeness. There were several independent witnesses, including TJC employees. He was given a final notice that his performance on the job was not acceptable. He was given a five-day suspension, placed on a 180-day probation period, required to take an anger management class, and required to meet with a supervisor every week for a six-month period.

"It is my recommendation that serious disciplinary action be taken against both Ward and Lowry," Chief Melton concluded.

The most recent incident at Varsity Place was the last one for Lowry, and concluded with his resignation on Dec. 4, 2013. Monty Ward resigned one week later on Dec. 11, 2013.

Campus P.D. has declined to comment on the matter, and the two officers could not be reached for comment.

### TJC INVESTIGATES

**This is the first article of a multi-part series dealing with crime in the area that directly affects Tyler Junior College students and faculty. Each article in this series will be marked as part of the "TJC Investigates" label.**

**For more on this and other crime related stories, go to MyTJCNews.com/crime.**

## CPR certification can help save lives

By Kati Fitzpatrick  
Staff Writer

CPR has the ability to save lives. Knowledge and developed skills is the first link to giving somebody a second chance at life.

"It can save lives. I've seen it save lives," said Deb Donahue, a TJC professor of health and kinesiology for the paramedics department. "I've worked as a paramedic on the streets ... you have to do the basics first which is CPR. [By-standers, family, friends] are the first link in the Chain of Survival ... before medical help gets there, they're the first link to help save lives. So CPR is very important."

No matter who, what, when, why, or how there is always a possibility a person could stop breathing. CPR is a preparation for the inconceivable.

Tyler Junior College offers CPR and first aid certification in the School of Continuing Studies. Using American Heart Association's guidelines, the instructors at TJC inform and teach the basics of CPR and first aid to those wanting to learn. Some degrees require the CPR course, such as nursing and EMTs, but the course is offered to anybody who wants to enroll.

Jack Caddell, professor of health and kinesiology at TJC, is one of the instructors of CPR and first aid courses. During this course, the student can either receive a certification for the first time or be recertified. The course is divided into two classes, a one-hour class and a two-hour lecture. The recertification only requires the one-hour course.

While certification is a necessity for many occupations, it is also simply a good life skill to have and can provide a person the necessary confidence to take control and help in case of an emergency.

"I think it's knowledge and a skill anybody who cares about other people should know," said Caddell.

Lifeguarding is a job where certification is necessary along with first aid. Lifeguards must be prepared to save a life, while they aren't medical professionals it is their job to do what they must until help arrives. Their job is to keep the blood flowing through the body so the brain does not become oxygen deprived. Same goes for a babysitter, kids love putting things where it doesn't belong. Any person working at daycare must be CPR and first aid certified. While their jobs are to watch the kids it's hard to keep your eyes on every child at every second, accidents happen. The babysitter is responsible for the child and must be prepared for this type of situation even if it seems unlikely to happen. These are jobs that many college students have while going to school so having CPR and first aid certification makes for an excellent candidate. Not only does the employer not have to pay for the class but can have the employee start immediately without the delay of taking the class.

"CPR is for you to keep somebody you love alive until the medical people can get there. That's the idea," said Caddell.

## CLUBS

continued from page 1

The involvement helps improve time management skills and offers a great connection or level of satisfaction with college life. Plus, meaningful involvement in extracurricular activities can give you the needed edge when competing for scholarships and future jobs.

A student who wants to bulk up their resume, but isn't sure where to start should consider exploring clubs offered on the campus. Joining a club or organization can help develop and strengthen leadership skills. Also, listing the involvement on a resume is known to make the resume appear solid and well-rounded.

"The organization I am involved in, Life Challenge Tyler, is encouraging," said Matthew Burns, radiology major. "Most of the people are younger than me, but it's a healthy break when we meet because it is a lot of positive encouragement."

Research shows joining a club or organization that explores your interests and passions can actually boost your self-esteem and set your goals even higher.

"I have seen several instances where a student has excelled due to their involvement in a organization," said Lauren Tyler, director of student activities. "If a student comes to me, I suggest going to a Student Senate meeting to see what organization they are most interested in. Students that are involved in clubs are typically more likely to graduate because they have found that connection."

The Student Senate meets in Jenkins Hall in room 1109 every other week at 4 p.m. The list of clubs can be found online at [www.tjc.edu/clubsorgs](http://www.tjc.edu/clubsorgs)

## HOMELESS

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After arriving, we began to unpack into our tent, that had been generously donated. Tim Harris also lent us his propane heater for the night, since the temperature was supposed to drop. The wind blew most of the night and so did the heat. Then I was awakened by the worst news.

"Favian," said AJ, "the heat's out."

After about five unsuccessful attempts at relighting the heater we crawled into our sleeping bags and and try to sleep.

After surviving the cold night, we woke at 7 a.m. for breakfast at the Salvation Army. Walking into the cafeteria the volunteers at the front began saying a prayer over the food and then serving the people waiting in line.

Grabbing a tray of food and sitting down I picked up my fork and stabbed it into the eggs on my tray. I took a bite and I thought to myself, this was going to be a long month, a long month indeed.

While giving a person CPR can double or even triple a person's chance of survival, only about 32% of cardiac arrest victims have a bystander attempt to perform CPR.

"Not a lot of people know how to do it. If we spread awareness I think a lot more people would get into it and have a person out at the swimming pool, or at places like Schlitterbahn, or wherever you may be going, that at least knows CPR. There's a good chance they could save a person's life," said Stephen Gum, a freshman student at TJC.

According to TJC's School of Continuing Studies, "seeks to provide lifelong learning for people of all ages to develop personal and professional potential."

CPR is a skill that could mean the difference between life and death. According to the American Heart Association, only 8% of those who stop breathing outside a hospital survive. Stop relying on others to be the person to help and prepare to be the person who can make a difference.

For more information concerning CPR and first aid classes on campus contact Jack Caddell at [jcad@tjc.edu](mailto:jcad@tjc.edu). If you would like to learn more about CPR and you can visit the American Heart Association at [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org). To learn more about TJC's School of Continuing Studies visit TJC's website and search School of Continuing Studies registration or the field you are interested in.



Photo by Kati Fitzpatrick

**THIS STUDENT** learns how to properly resuscitate a person using a dummy.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE HOSTS JOB FAIRS

The Criminal Justice Job and Career fair will be held in the Rogers Student Center on Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This will be an opportunity for people to get information on police agencies that are looking to hire individuals.

### SIGN LANGUAGE STORY TIME

The TJC Sign Language Interpreter Training Program will present children's stories in American Sign Language, voiced in English at the Barnes and Noble store on South Broadway Avenue in Tyler.

The event will take place on Feb. 7, Feb. 21, March 7, March 21 and April 4 beginning at 11 a.m. Contact Rhonda McKinzie at 903-510-2774 for more information.

### ARMED ROBBERY

Andrew Aybar, Cordero Beck, Justin Johnson and confirmed TJC student Demaria Woods have been arrested for their alleged involvement in the armed robbery of a Food Fast on the night of Jan. 13.

### TEST ANXIETY WORKSHOP

The Test Anxiety Workshop has been rescheduled for Friday, Feb. 14. In its place there will be a Learning Styles Workshop on Friday, Feb. from 12-1 p.m.

### WOMEN'S VETERAN ROUNDTABLE

The Veterans and Community Roundtable is going to address issues that Women Veterans have upon returning to their communities. We need your help to do that. Please contact Shirley Lindsay at [shirly@embarq-mail.com](mailto:shirly@embarq-mail.com) or 903-279-6979

### "LOVE UNDER THE STARS"

Friday, Feb. 14, at the Center for Earth & Space Science Education at Tyler Junior College there will be a Valentine's Day event for couples. Tickets can be bought at [www.tjc.edu/cesse](http://www.tjc.edu/cesse), or at the counter.



**\$1** Buffalo Ranch McChicken

**more  
flavors  
to favor**



dollar  
menu  
& more



i'm lovin' it



**\$2** Bacon McDougle

1300 South Beckham, Tyler TX

2705 East 5th Street, Tyler TX



## Just be a Friend

### PATH offering a special program to promote mentoring to children

By Bianca Branham  
Staff Writer

Although the holiday season has come to an end, PATH (people attempting to help) organization still has many opportunities where people of Smith County can get involved and help the community.

One of the special programs PATH offers is the Bev's Kids Reach mentoring program. This mentoring program matches children who come from an array of different household situations with caring, in an attempt to prevent future substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, school dropouts and to provide guidance.

"We do trust that God is going to bring the kids that need a mentor here in Tyler," said Mark Richardson coordinator of the mentoring program.

Bev's Kids Reach mentoring program was named after the late Beverly Ann Beird, a woman with a passion for helping kids. After her death, her parents Rosemary and Herald Beird made a donation from Beverly's estate to PATH in her honor thus the mentoring program incorporated her name into their title.

"Bev had a huge heart for kids, she just loved them," said Richardson.

To enter into the program there is an extensive application and interview process. The program requires at least a 12-month commitment, and at least four hours a month spent with a matched mentee. PATH also carefully screens each volunteer by doing an extensive background check. The age group of the mentees ranges from 6 to 17 years old and the age of mentors ranges from 18 to 70 years old.

According to Mark Richardson the mentors and mentees are matched by a series of surveys and interviews.

Some matches have been successful and others have not. One match that has succeeded is that of mentor Alex Easterling age 22 and her mentee Candace.

Easterling has worked with youth before but she enjoys the



BEV'S KIDS is a special program PATH offers. Top picture is Clint Craycraft and his mentee Demarius. Bottom picture is Alex Easterling and mentee Candace.

Photo by Bianca Branham

### Valentines Day

## Students share worst dating FAILs

By Nicole Acosta  
Staff Writer

If you find yourself dreamy eyed and marking a red heart around Feb. 14, don't be alarmed if your high hopes turn into a broken heart. The Apache Pow Wow asked a few students to share their stories of Valentine's Day dates gone wrong.

As lovely of a holiday that it is, it's surprising how many people truly dislike Valentine's Day. The tragic stories people have to tell about what has happened to them on Valentine's Day is a sharp contrast of how people really want to spend this holiday.

John Garza, a TJC cheerleader described his speedy end to a relationship. Garza happened to be dating the daughter of the police officer who pulled him over on Valentine's Day for speeding. Instead of receiving a big box of chocolates, Garza received a big fat speeding ticket. Later on, the dad told Garza's girlfriend to text him saying, "Happy Valentine's day, you got a speeding ticket," as if it was from her. Garza said, "It wasn't the best Valentines gift I've received." The relationship didn't end immediately after this bump in the road, but sure enough, it ended.

Another student, who is now married, shared a story about a scary Valentine's date with one of his ex-girlfriends. The couple at the time, decided it would be cool to go riding on back roads for Valentine's day, except they quickly got a scary awakening seeing a mysterious person just walking out by the fields. The couple decided to stop and asked if everything was ok and if he needed any help.

"We asked him if he needed a phone or anything, but it was still suspicious that he was out

— see WORST DATES page 5 —



Photo by Crystal Saucedo

LOANS AND LAUNDRY is a seminar for students offered by Financial Literacy Committee.

## Fresh clothes and clean credit tips offered to college students

By Crystal Saucedo  
Staff Writer

No money laundering here, but students can do laundry and learn about handling loans.

"Fifty-two percent of students are using financial aid here at TJC," said Devon Wiggins, Tyler Junior College Financial Aid Director.

As a result, Financial Literacy Committee, that brought Cash Cab to campus, will be holding a seminar for students called Loans and Laundry. There will be three sessions beginning at 6-6:30 p.m., 6:45-7:15 p.m., and 7:30-8 p.m., on Feb. 10 in Ornelas Gold Room. Joe Braxton, senior financial aid consultant from Texas Guaranteed Loan Corporation will speak. There will be free Chick-fil-a for anybody who attends, and laundry bags with detergent and change to do a load of laundry. The presentation will tell students about the cost of borrowing loans, repayment plans that avoid debt, and the consequences of default.

"Yes, I use student loans. I confess, I don't know much about financial aid. My parents just took out a loan because they couldn't pay out of pocket," said Natalia Alvarado, Tyler Junior College student.

While many students let their parents take care of the financial piece of college, they may not realize that being informed now is important to their future. Grants and work-study do not hold students accountable for paying the institution/company back. Loans, however, are borrowed money that accrue interest and have to be paid no matter the student's financial status. It is critical that students who are in dire need of student loans use them carefully. Students are seeing one of the lower interest

rates, as it is currently 3.4 percent for subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Because they are an investment in a student's future, they can be a necessary evil.

"I only think about financial aid at the beginning of the semester when I am waiting to get the money for my classes and books," said Virgil Hatfield, Tyler Junior College student.

As important as it is to move forward toward a higher degree, it is equally important to meet the expectations by the government in order to continue receiving their financial aid.

"Somewhere between 15-20 percent of TJC students are put on financial aid suspension because they don't meet satisfactory academic progress," said Devon. "When this occurs, the student is expected to find other means of payment in order to continue their education here at TJC."

There is a requirement for undergraduate students to keep a 2.0 GPA and for graduates, a 3.0 GPA. Depending on the credit hours the student is taking, it influences the amount of financial aid they will be awarded. The school has the authority to put the student on academic probation due to grades and if they receive financial aid, may be required to pay back the college. As it may be overwhelming for a student to have one more thing to keep up with, this is an element that they will face throughout a college experience.

To get more information, advisors are waiting to help at the Financial Aid office located in the White Administration building as well as over the phone by calling (903)510-2385.

Academic advising center is located on the second floor of the Rodgers Student Center and can be contacted at (903)510-3287.

## Spare change is turning up in surprising places

By Glenda Alvarado  
Feature Editor

Students are always in need of some extra cash due to their busy lives, juggling work and education. There is money in the least expected of places. It can be found at home or in a dormitory. It's all about thinking intently where to look.

"I usually use my money to pay my bills and when I am broke I go to my last resort, my drawer. My drawer is where I keep all my change. I strictly rely on that change for gas money," said Jaymy Villalobos, criminal justice major.

Many people tend to take coins for granted. Coins add up and there is an easier way to use them than having to dump a bag of change in front of a cashier. There is a machine located in many supermarkets, such as Super One or Brookshire's, called a Coin Star that will transform all that change into a cash voucher.

"There isn't anything I wouldn't do when I need money, I just about put my clothes to sell, or pawn my expensive jewelry. I don't have the luxury to sit and wait with my arms crossed for my next paycheck. When you have a 2 year-old, you have to do whatever is necessary," said Alejandra Gomez, a general studies major.

There are also pawnshops and stores that are willing to buy old items, in reasonable condition, of course.

First, there is Plato's closet, located at 322 E. Southeast Loop 323 located in Tyler. It is meant for women who are looking to sell as well as buy quality, branded clothes. It's open Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Weekend hours vary. For more information call (903) 534- 2956.

There are also various pawnshops located in Tyler, where anything can be pawned from an old television to your late mother's gold bracelet. There are at least 6 pawnshops in town, so there is no settling on any prices.

Hastings, located at 4015 S. Broadway Ave. is the only video store remaining in Tyler. It gives you the option of buying back books (non textbooks), videos or DVD'S. Hastings is open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Weekends till 11 p.m. For more information call (903) 534-9278.

Another good option, without driving all over town, is grabbing all unwanted clothing, old radios, old anything and setting up an old-fashioned yard sale on a weekend. The only factor to worry about is whether the weather is going to be great, otherwise there will be other weekends ahead. "When I am in need of cash, I would just simply go to the bank and ask for a loan. Maybe it isn't a good idea to ask for a big amount just something that you can pay off in 2 months," said Yadhira Sandoval, a nursing major.



Photo by Glenda Alvarado

PLATO'S CLOSET is a store in Tyler that buys back clothes with little wear and tear. (top left)

PLATO'S CLOSET is located at 322 E. SE Loop 323. (bottom left)





Photo by Nicole Acosta

VALENTINE'S DAY is supported at a resident hall on TJC campus.

WORST DATES

continued from page 4

there on his own," the student said.

Later that night when the sun went down, they almost ran over the same person as he appeared from out of nowhere while the couple was still driving.

"She was driving, luckily nothing bad happened but it was pretty scary," the student said.

A man on a mission to conquer his crush in high school never gave up on his date until he got the cheek. Brian Daniel, attending TJC this semester, had his eye on a classmate his junior year and he knew Valentine's Day was coming up, so it was the perfect chance to finally ask her on a date. On Valentine's Day he gave her a gift basket along with the awkward question to go out on a date. He knew by the way she answered she didn't really want to, but she still said yes. Daniels had some hope until they got to the date and had absolutely nothing to talk about, shortly he found out they had nothing in common. After a movie and dinner, while dropping her off he still insisted on getting a kiss.

"Well, once I leaned in she gave me the cheek," Daniel said.

Shane Newton, a current TJC student was dating a girl during his junior year of high school. The couple had planned on going to a movie for Valentine's Day. He and his girlfriend agreed to meet up at the theater, only to find out his girlfriend's mom decided to stay for the movie as well.

"It turned out being a date with her

mom. It was very awkward; I had to sit in the middle of both of them," Newton said.

Later after the movie, the mom insisted on how much she enjoyed the movie and didn't realize the date wasn't supposed to have included her. After this date, there weren't many more movies for the couple to watch because they broke up.

Unluckily for Vivian Ezeigwe, her flowery disaster happened in high school. Her boyfriend at the time had given her flowers for Valentines Day. She later found out those flowers really weren't for her because he had stolen them from his friend.

"So I didn't know who the flowers were really for," Ezeigwe said. She confesses with a smile on her face that he made up for it the next year with a teddy bear half her size.

Sophomore Dallas Matula got a message in a bottle on Valentine's Day only to find the biggest mistake an admirer should never make when writing someone a card.

"A guy wrote me a letter and put it in a wine bottle, and I mean it was really cute but he spelled my name wrong," said Matula.

Matula knew the guy from a few classes, but they weren't friends so she was surprised when he simply walked up and gave her the wine bottle.

"It was cute, and I still have it. It was just shocking," Matula confesses.

As Valentines Day comes closer, don't forget to share your Valentine's Day horror stories with us on Facebook. (No names please, to protect the unfortunate).

KIDS

continued from page 4

personal one-on-one time she gets to spend with Candace.

"I've worked for boys and girls club for many years, and I enjoyed it, but I wanted something more personable. Something I could pour into an individual," said Easterling.

Easterling has been mentoring Candace for the past year and a half, and has evidently found great joy in being the role model in Candace's life. Not only has she made an impact in Candace's life but in mentoring, her life has been changed as well.

She said that she has learned how to better manage different aspects of her life.

"Time management is key. I do a lot but Candy is a part of my life, so I have to put things down sometimes to spend time with her," Easterling said.

Being a mentor is not taking on the role of a parent but being a guide and a friend.

"When you are mentor you are the big friend that knows everything, that guides your mentee through the year," said Richardson.

That friendship role is exactly what new mentor Clint Craycraft, to mentee Demarius, is looking forward to fulfilling.

"I think we are going to have fun, I just want to learn about him and hopefully he can teach me some things," said Craycraft.

Currently there are 23 active mentor/mentee matches in the Bev's Kid Reach program. There are two young men on the waiting list for a mentor and one female mentor on the waiting list for a mentee, but there is always a need for mentors, especially young male mentors.

"I currently have two boys on the waiting list, I need male mentors, and I need good men. Young active and full of energy," said Richardson.

Any person interested in becoming a Mentor through the Bev's Kid Reach program should go to PATH.com or Call 903-597-7284 and ask for Mark Richardson.

edit

Friends

Networks

Inbox

Contact

Relationships

Personal

Education

Work

Picture

Interested in:

☐ Men

☐ Women

Relationship Status:

Select Status:

Single

In a Relationship

Engaged

Married

It's Complicated

In an Open Relationship

Looking for:

Dating

Random

VALENTINE'S DAY IDEAS FOR ANY RELATIONSHIP STATUS

MyTJCnews.com has exclusive ideas for everyone this Valentine's Day. Whether you're single, married or just have a crush on someone, we've got the options for you.

Check out our article, "Valentine's doesn't have to be a waste of your time," by Amber Jones.

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14

Tues.  
March  
18

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win  
prizes!

Tues.  
Feb.  
11

Tues.  
April  
15

Come  
win  
prizes!

Come  
win  
prizes!

7  
P.m.

RSC,  
2nd  
floor

Must have valid TJC ID

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please contact the Student Life office  
at 903-510-2797

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Photo by Chloe Hodge

**NICK OVILA** rocks his xylophone to the beat practicing for upcoming Nationals.

## The beat goes on with the Indoor Drumline

By Chloe Hodge  
Staff Writer

For the student captains of the TJC Indoor Drum Line, juggling school and 30 hours of rehearsals a week is not uncommon.

"It is difficult to balance Indoor Drum Line rehearsals with class, work and other music obligations that I have," said Marimba Captain Steven Salazar. "We practice about 30 hours a week and give our entire weekends up in dedication to the music."

Salazar, a three year veteran of percussion, is head of the percussionist ensemble, a part of the drum line that includes non-moving instruments such as marimbas, xylophones and keyboards.

"I am under the directors, so I always ensure that I do as they ask. I do most of my leading by just being a good example; showing up to rehearsals or sectionals, practicing on my free time and always doing what I am told during rehearsals," said Salazar. "I am expected to know the music so I can teach others properly. I act as the other musicians' listening point."

Sophomore Joshua Alderete, snare captain of the ensemble, is excited to give the audiences a show much different from last year's performance.

"It is exhausting throughout the semester with constant practices. Having to carry drums on your body for hours at a time and physically conditioning yourself while doing so isn't easy. But it's rewarding to see yourself get into shape both physically and musically," said Alderete. "We are not allowed to have sheet music in front of us to look at while we are rehearsing our drill. So we are having to memorize choreography while staying in step with one another, while carrying heavy drums, all while having to remember six minutes worth of music. It is one of the most intense opportunities that a percussionist can have."

Indoor Drum Line is pegged by Winter Guard International, an organization dedicated to the theater of music, as being a three way combination of music performance, theater and athletics.

Students participating in Indoor Drum Line will begin the season on Feb. 2 in Houston and end the semester at the national championships in Dayton, Ohio in April. They will also travel to Kentucky this semester.

Although Indoor Drum Line has been a tradition of the Apache Band since 2007, this show is guaranteed to be different than any other season.

"We have a completely different show this year. The band has hired new writers for the show. The new music is going to connect more to the audience."

Rhythms and grooves are more diverse than it has been in previous years. The music is much more challenging, so I know the show has high expectations," said Alderete.

Tom McGowan, coordinator of Indoor Drum Line and director of percussion, believes this drum-oriented organization holds very unique experiences.

"This branch of the Apache Band has more emphasis on body movement and ballet forms. It is only for percussionists."

There are no flutes or tubas incorporated in this group. We strive to make this worth the time that we spend trying to perfect it," said McGowan.

Austin Tackett, coordinator for the front ensemble, sees improvement in this year's show compared to last year's practices.

— see DRUM LINE page 7 —

## TJC Presents:

SWEENEY TODD



Photos by Kevin Ramos

Left, costumes hang waiting for opening night. Right, production Director Becky Faulds-Howard works on a gritty wardrobe for the much-anticipated musical that will showing be Feb. 26-March 1 at TJC.

By Kevin Ramos  
Online Editor

Sweeney Todd's quest for vengeance leads him to Tyler Junior College and based on its accolades on Broadway, audiences can't get enough of the Demon Barber.

Sweeney Todd's quest for vengeance leads him to Tyler Junior College and based on its accolades on Broadway, audiences can't get enough of the Demon Barber.

"People are drawn to that because they can go to a show and watch this maniac do what he does in a safe environment and explore the idea of a sociopath without feeling threatened by it," said Director Rebecca Faulds-Howard, a veteran professor of drama at TJC.

From Feb. 26 – March 1, "Sweeney Todd: Demon Barber of Fleet Street" makes its debut in Wise Auditorium at TJC.

Deep into pre-production, vintage costumes from Victorian London line the racks and mannequins wearing wigs fill the space backstage of the auditorium. Professor Howard's enthusiasm bleeds through and she says the timing couldn't be better to introduce "Sweeney Todd" to TJC students and the Tyler community.

"It was the right time. We had the right people in both musical and theater department that could play the roles and we felt like the community was at a point that they would accept it," said Howard.

Both Howard and Music Director Andrea Trent made a list of what musicals they wanted to bring to TJC this semester. After both ended up with "Sweeney Todd" in their top three, the decision was simple.

Trent, an 11-year musical theater professor, credits the Tyler community as being loyal to the shows TJC has been putting over the years.

"TJC has a long tradition of really good, strong, popular musicals that people from the community and young people and kids would come see," said Trent.

The music of Steven Sondheim is also a big draw, according to Trent.

"The music itself is very unique. It's very modern. It's very challenging," said Trent.

Since 1979, people all over the world have been fascinated with the deliciously dark tale of Sweeney Todd. Adapted for Broadway as a musical by Sondheim, the story follows a barber who returns to London after being banished for 15 years. With a straight razor in hand, he executes his revenge on those who wronged him one poor soul at a time.

Both Trent and Howard want to remind adults this show is not for children, and parents should keep that

in mind when deciding to enter the bloody world of the Demon Barber.

"Sweeney Todd" also marks Matthew James Butler's third time on the TJC stage and first starring role in a musical. The sophomore business major was last seen in the Actor's Preparatory Exchange Theatre's production of "Rent," before that he played the starring role for APEX in "Equus."

With playing such a famous role comes a familiarity with Sweeney that Butler hopes people attending the show come latch on to.

"I want people to come with these expectations, and as opposed to their expectations being met or not met, I want these expectations to just be thrown out the door and see something that they never thought they would expect. At all!" said Butler.

Butler also credits acting as his own method for personal growth and anxiously looks forward to tackling this complex character.

"I think acting makes me a better person, personally. I think that's why I put myself out on stage. It allows me to empathize with different kinds of people ... Believe it or not, playing a murderous serial killer barber, still allows me to explore different parts of myself that I would never get the chance to had I not taken this upon myself to do," said Butler.

Dr. David Crawford, TJC professor of drama in charge of theater management, has one simple wish for attendees of "Sweeney Todd."

"I just want them going away saying, 'I'm glad I went. I'm going to go tell all the people at work they've got to come see the show. I just want them to go away happy,'" said Dr. Crawford.

### THE DEMON BARBER

#### Sweeney Todd: Demon Barber of Fleet Street

"Sweeney Todd: Demon Barber of Fleet Street" opens Feb. 26 and runs through March 1 in Wise Auditorium at TJC. Tickets can be reserved at the box office or at the door for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors.

#### Feature Film Adaptation

In 2007 "Sweeney Todd" became a blockbuster feature film directed by Tim Burton. The screenplay was adapted by John Logan with Christopher Bond and Hugh Wheeler adapting the music. The film grossed \$152 million worldwide.

## Talent shows are beginning to lose their luster

By Sarah Trexler  
Verve Editor

With a surplus of singing competition shows making way to television networks since the rise of *American Idol* (Idol) in 2002, it seems that anyone capable of carrying a note while singing in the shower feels entitled to an audition. Popular talent shows, in addition to Idol, include *The Voice*, *The X Factor* and *America's Got Talent* featured on corporate TV stations like NBC and FOX. Nielsen Company reported Idol finale shrunk from 22.77 million in season 1 to 14.3 million in season 12, making it difficult to form an educated guess how successful season 13 will be this year. Nielsen Company specialize in measuring and monitoring what Americans watch on TV and what products they buy for the past 49 years.

Jan. 15 was marked as the worst debut in *Idol* history, with 15.2 million views, according to Nielsen Co. Viewers and adamant watchers of the singing competition show have voiced dissatisfaction on the show on social networking resources

challenging *Idol* to make changes to the show format before it becomes as invisible as Ruben Studdard (Season 2 winner).

Talent shows may present an opportunity to discover a "superstar" but does not promise success to those who win.

"Becoming a professional singer is a lot more difficult and

**"Becoming a professional singer is a lot more difficult and stressful. It takes dedication, hard work and perseverance."**

-Grace Johnson  
Voice Teacher

stressful," voice teacher Grace Johnson said. "It takes dedication, hard work and perseverance."

Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and lead singer for the band the Foo Fighters, Dave Grohl, expressed his thought of singing competition shows using very colorful language in an interview with NME magazine:

"I think people should feel encouraged to be themselves. That's what bums me out about those shows where people are judged so harshly ... It makes me really mad."

Not everyone who auditions is looking for the golden ticket to stardom. Tyler Junior College student Brett Burks auditioned last year in Austin for *The Voice* singing "Follow Me" by Uncle Kracker, simply because he has always wanted to do it.

"It takes a lot to go out and showcase your talent. Sometimes it's hard to go and sing in front of people," Burks said. "You've got to be vulnerable to present yourself like that."

He felt accomplished even though he did not make the cut.

The shows can also give contestants a chance to present their background story and create a "unique avenue," which viewers relate to. Week after week viewers build a bond with a chosen favorite contestant, remaining loyal until the end of the series. Dedicated viewers who vote for their favorites feel like they have a chance to cultivate the show to their liking.

— see TALENT SHOWS page 7 —



# TALENT SHOWS

continued from page 6

In the past 12 seasons some *Idol* contestants' "unique avenue" were paved with a "sob story" before auditions and in episodes after. Maybe contestants are pulling the sympathy card to gain more support from viewers. "Sob stories" have ranged from loss of a family member or significant other to a sick dog. The ubiquitous default of the sad stories overkill gained attention through social media resources and open Internet discussions, deciding to rid of the "sob story."

It's time to focus on the singer and quality of the voice and ignore the guilt trip being presented.

Singers who are serious about their talent and take voice lessons or classes to enhance their voice, know the difference between mimicking popular songs heard on the radio and hitting the proper note during an hour-long solo performance.

Johnson refers to the shows as the "magic diet pill" of singing. With current generations consumed with instant gratification, the "get rich quick scheme" is an unrealistic view of making it to the top as a singer. The shows should be about the talent of contestants, not what catty comments judges make back and forth that seemed to consume most of the attention for *Idol* season 12.

"It's just frustrating. It's like you're trying desperately to get your crush's attention and then some other person just walks up and whisks them away," Johnson said.

From a professional perspective, Johnson cringes at the thought of appearing on a talent show. She said that bands and musicians create ideas and share the result with their voices, as a form of artistic expression.

*Idol* has demonstrated the quality of stars it can produce with the success of Kelly Clarkson, Carrie Underwood and Phillip Phillips to name a few.

Lyndsey Parker from Yahoo TV online makes a point stating that *Idol* is "the only singing show with bragging rights when it comes to consistently launching platinum- selling and Grammy-winning stars."

To catch a glimpse of what qualities make a superstar in *Idol*, *The Voice* and *The X Factor* check local listings for times and dates for viewing.

# DRUMLINE

continued from page 6

"It is still early in the season. However, I never recall having such a dedicated group of people that are so eager to learn and are so focused and driven to receive great scores. Tardiness is not really an issue like it has been in previous years. This is their home for the next four months. The band hall has been the students' home since late October," said Tackett. "People are working ahead on memorizing their music. Everybody is eager and prepared to learn their music and choreography. Everyone has the best mindset to have when coming into such a competitive environment."

The drum line will perform their show for TJC faculty and students in Wagstaff Gym before going on to the world championships from April 10-13. The date and time is still to be announced.

## campusSCENE



## The Cast of "Sweeney Todd"

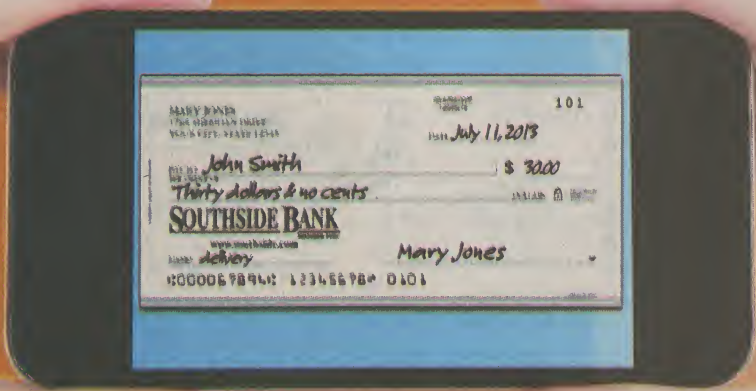
Photos by Kevin Ramos

LEFT Matthew Butler prepares to step into the boots of Sweeney Todd and delve into the mind of the maniacal barber.

BOTTOM Deep into pre-production, the cast await to push the boundaries and give audiences a bloody experience.



## Banking in a snap.



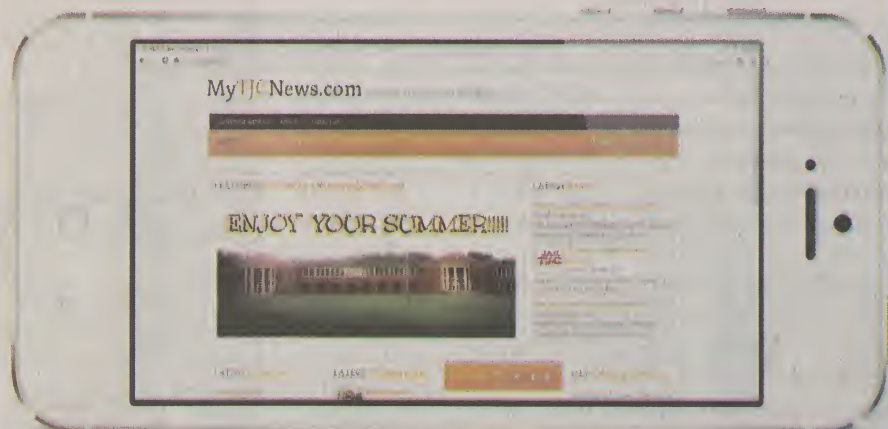
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Apartment reviews for affordable student housing!  
Price List  
Photo Gallery  
and helpful Google Maps



## Apaches aiming to take next step in 2014

### BASEBALL

By Nathan Wright  
Sports Editor

In 2013, the TJC baseball team won 38 contests and advanced to the District C Tournament, winning some big games along the way but falling short of its ultimate goal.

As the 2014 season got under way on Feb. 3, the Apaches are looking to fix what went wrong at the end of last season and take the next step – back to the NJCAA Division III World Series.

"Last year, we had a great regular season," TJC head coach Doug

Wren said. "We got what we needed in there. Basically, our season builds up to the district tournament. Going into the district tournament, we felt good about where we were at. We just didn't play our best baseball. Nothing went our way up there."

"It was a heartbreaking weekend because we had such high expectations."

TJC went 2-2 at the tournament and lost in the championship game to Brookhaven 7-5.

Last season is now history and the Apaches are hoping to make amends for coming up short last spring. They are ranked No. 2 in the NJCAA Preseason Top 10 poll.

This year's roster features 16 freshmen and 18 sophomores, all looking to be playing for a national championship on their home field in May.

The team lost the majority of its pitching staff to graduation last year, but Wren expects sophomore Erik Polivka to be one of the leaders on the mound. The left-hander from Georgetown has already signed with Stephen F. Austin.

Polivka was 4-2 last season with a 4.30 ERA in 44 innings pitched.

Sophomore Kevin Williams, a left-hander from League City, is also

— see BASEBALL page 9 —



Photo by Cory McCoy

**LISTEN UP** Members of the TJC baseball team listen to coach Doug Wren during Media Day on Jan. 31 at Mike Carter Field.



Courtesy Photo

**SIGNED AND SEALED** Sixteen of the 17 signees for the inaugural TJC softball team were on campus on Jan. 16 to sign their letters of intent for play for the Apaches and head coach Nicole Dickson. The recruits are from as close as Van and as far away as California.

## Making her pitch

### Dickson recruits, signs 17 for first TJC squad

#### SOFTBALL

By Nathan Wright  
Sports Editor

On Jan. 16, roughly six months after she was hired as the first head coach of TJC softball, Nicole Dickson watched proudly as 16 members of her first-ever Apache recruiting class signed their letters of intent.

"It was more than we expected," Dickson said. "We signed 17 players and out of those 17, we had 16 attend on campus. We were really impressed with it and I think it just says a lot about the campus and the community and how they are excited about softball at TJC."

The signing ceremony in Wagstaff Gym was the culmination of several months of recruiting to get a team in place before the first season of the new sport gets swinging next fall.

That recruiting process for Dickson was a little different than most coaches. She didn't have tradition, an established program or even a playing field to lure players to TJC.

What she had was the athletic success of the school and her own connections, history and influence. She used all of those to pull together an impressive first team.

"Even though we don't have any facilities

### TJC Softball: The inaugural class

**Rachel Brockhaus**  
■ Kenner, LA  
■ 1B, 3B

**Autumn McKinney**  
■ Van, TX  
■ P, OF

**Jacalyn Edwards**  
■ Victorville, CA  
■ SS, 2B

**Haley Mills**  
■ Orange, TX  
■ SS, CF

**Amber Landry**

■ Ponchatoula, LA  
■ C, 3B

**Autumn Holloway**  
■ Cypress, TX  
■ SS, 3B

**Madison Langston**  
■ Carlsbad, CA  
■ 3B, SS

**Grasyn Langley**  
■ Garland, TX  
■ OF

**Amber Pufal**  
■ League City, TX

■ C, 3B

**Ashlee Gibson**  
■ Burleson, TX  
■ P

**Marina Duran**  
■ Chino, CA  
■ 1B, 3B

**Haleigh Moore**  
■ Van, TX  
■ 1B, 3B

**Ashlin Roach**  
■ Hughes Springs, TX

■ UTILITY

**Jaclyn Molenaar**  
■ La Porte, TX  
■ OF

**Breawna McCraw**  
■ Colbert, OK  
■ P, UTILITY

**Khandi Breaux**  
■ Orange, TX  
■ P

**Brittani Whitten**  
■ Roseville, CA  
■ OF

ready to go right now, if you just look around TJC's campus we have the best facilities, junior college-wise," Dickson said. "TJC is just doing all the right things with their athletic program."

"I'm not saying it is easy to recruit an entire team. But it was easier to recruit kids here because first of all, Tyler has a great community. We have more degree plans than a lot of junior colleges offer. My kids were really attracted to having those kinds of options."

Dickson's first area to recruit was East Texas, and she did well in that area with players from as close as Van. She said she then expanded her scope to the rest of the state and found several players from the Houston area.

Given the school's proximity to other states, she reached out to players from Oklahoma and Louisiana. She even convinced three

players from California to join her team.

Breawna McCraw, a pitcher/utility player from Colbert, Okla. made her decision to come to TJC because of Coach Dickson and the beauty of the campus. Catcher Amber Landry, from Ponchatoula, La. said it was her previous experience meeting Dickson that persuaded her to pick TJC.

Dickson said her phone began ringing and her e-mail inbox started filling up from potential players when she first took the job and some even contacted her before that.

Pitcher Ashlee Gibson, from Burleson, met Dickson two years ago while playing in a select tournament in Colorado. After Dickson remained in contact with her, Gibson said her

— see SOFTBALL page 9 —

## 50th title will be won this spring

If the 50th national title for TJC athletics was the Super Bowl or the decisive game of the World Series, NBA Finals or any other professional team championship, twice during the fall the champagne

### COLUMN



Nathan Wright  
Sports Editor

would have been on ice and the commemorative t-shirts would have been ready to distribute.

But as students left campus in December and returned last month, the search for that 50th championship continues.

Just as a refresher, TJC athletics have won a collective 49 national championships - well over half of them coming from the tennis team. But every Apache sport - with the exception of softball which has not yet played a game - has contributed to that number.

Three sports teams in the fall looked like contenders to become the squad to reach that milestone for the school. Football took a top-five ranking into the playoffs but lost in the first round. Both the men's soccer and volleyball teams played in the championship round of their respective national tournaments but both fell just short.

The football team won its first seven games before taking a loss. The team still advanced to the NJCAA playoffs, where they lost in the opening contest to Navarro 33-24. The squad qualified for the Football Capital of Kansas Bowl where they defeated Garden City Community College 47-21 to finish the season with a 9-2 record.

The volleyball team went 28-2 during the regular season, with its only two losses coming to rival Blinn. Blinn proved to be a thorn in the Apache ladies' side in the postseason as well, defeating TJC in the finals of the Region XIV tournament and the national tournament, denying the Apache ladies the school's 50th title with a 26-24, 25-27, 25-12, 26-24 victory in the national championship match.

The men's soccer team took a 19-2 record and the Region XIV title into the national championship match against Iowa Western Community College where the Apaches lost in a shootout, leaving the athletic program with 49 titles at the end of the fall semester.

As the spring semester begins a group of new teams will look to make history. The men's and women's basketball teams are well into their seasons. Baseball and

— see COLUMN page 9 —

### Women's Basketball

Feb. 8, 2 p.m. vs. Trinity Valley CC  
Feb. 12, 5:30 p.m. vs. Blinn College  
Feb. 15, 4 p.m. @ Panola College  
Feb. 19, 5:30 p.m. vs. Paris Junior College

### Men's Basketball

Feb. 8, 4 p.m. vs. Trinity Valley CC  
Feb. 15, 4 p.m. @ Panola College  
Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m. vs. Paris Junior College

## Sports CALENDAR

UPCOMING TJC ATHLETICS: FEBRUARY 2014

### Baseball

Feb. 7, 7 p.m., vs. Frank Phillips College  
Feb. 8, Noon, vs. Frank Phillips College (Doubleheader)  
Feb. 10, 2 p.m. @ Hill College  
Feb. 12, 2 p.m. @ Brookhaven College  
Feb. 17, 6 p.m. @ UT-Tyler  
Feb. 19, 6 p.m. @ Panola College





**SERVING IT UP** Joanna Savva, a freshman from Nicosia, Cypress works on her serve for the upcoming season. Both the men's and women's tennis teams will be playing for their fifth consecutive national championships this spring.

Photo by Olivia LeVoy

# Drive for five

## Men, women each begin quest for a fifth straight national championship

### TENNIS

By Olivia LeVoy  
Staff Writer

It is highly possible that one of the TJC tennis teams will win the 50th national championship for the school if another sport doesn't beat them to it.

Last year the teams brought home the school's 48th and 49th championships, each winning a national title for the fourth year in a row.

"... Coach (Dash) Connell's men's and women's tennis teams will both enter this Spring season as defending national champions," said Athletic Director Dr. Tim Drain.

This spring has many opportunities in store for both teams and players.

Representing the women are Joanna Savva, who was the 2013 NJCAA Doubles Champion and Fausthyara Pietersz, who is currently No. 2 in the nation.

The men's tennis team features Manté Cutura, who was the 2013 NJCAA singles champion and ranked No. 1 in the nation. The team also includes a new player from South Africa, Vaughn Hunter.

The women's team will be made up of all returning players from the Fall season. The men's team returning players, besides Cutura and Hunter, are James Martell, Ryan Hudelson and Dillion

**"Winning is fun, but in the end, we have a couple of jobs. Our other job is to prepare these students for a four-year school and the best way to do that is to get better on the tennis court and in the classroom as people every day."**

-Dash Connell  
TJC Tennis Coach

Eizember.

The teams will combine to compete in 43 tournaments this season. The men will have 20 and the women will have 23. TJC will host 11 of the women's and nine of the men's tournaments.

"One of the best ways to be prepared is to play a lot of matches," Head Coach Dash Connell said. "Beginning in March, TJC will be hosting a big ASA tournament here."

ASA is a junior college in New York, originally known as Advanced Software Analysis.

The tennis teams as a whole, including coaches, have their own personal motivation instead of only winning.

"I really try to promote the idea of getting better every day. I've heard other coaches in other sports say that and explain it in their book and it makes sense to me. We try to incorporate that as much as possible here," Connell said.

"Winning is fun, but in the end, we have a couple of jobs. Our other job is pre-

pare these students for a four-year school and the best way to do that is to get better on the tennis court and in the classroom as people every day. It's easy to get caught up in are we winning or not winning. If we think in this way of are we getting better this week than last week, that makes it easier and less pressure. We can't win every game."

Players know that part of the game is also in their heads. They do many things to stay ready.

"I like to sing certain songs during the matches while playing," women's player Kerry Wiegand said.

"I am very superstitious and it makes me play better," Cutura said, although he wouldn't share his superstitions.

Being the four-time defending national champion brings added pressure to win, and fans can expect the teams to be loud and proud.

"Energy and excitement from them," said Cantra. "I am super excited for this season."

## BASEBALL

continued from page 8

a starter that Wren expects to be at the top of his rotation. Wren also expects several newcomers to step up and help carry the load.

While the team lacks experience in pitching, it returns plenty of experience offensively, led by All-American sophomore outfielder Anthony Soriano from Flower Mound.

Soriano batted .339 with 14 doubles, two home runs and 33 RBIs last season.

Wren also expects big things from returning first baseman Eric Stegent, a sophomore from Brenham who was one of the team's better hitters last season. Second baseman Justin Monsour, a sophomore from McKinney, also returns as does catcher Connor Wyr.

Stegent batted .333 with 10 doubles, four home runs and 38 RBIs last season while Monsour batted .280 with eight doubles, and 19 RBIs.

Monsour is one of the leaders on the team and he said it is a role that he is looking forward to this season.

Wren also expects some freshmen to come in and contribute in a big way in their first season on the team.

"We have a good mix of some young guys and some experienced guys, especially offensively," Wren said. "On

the pitching side, we have a lot of talent, it is just the experience factor that we are concerned with."

Wren will use the first few weeks of the season to evaluate his team and try to find the perfect mix of players for the team to be successful. With a roster of 34 and a near-even mix of freshmen and sophomores, he is excited about the depth of his team, something that he hasn't always had.

The Apaches haven't been to the NJCAA Division III World Series since 2012. They haven't won it since 2007, but came close in 2010 and 2012.

The players and their coach hope to figure out what it takes to get to the next step – a national championship appearance and possible title on their home field. TJC will once again host the NJCAA Division III national tournament this year.

Stegent said the players are also using last year's loss in the district championship game as motivation to make it to this year's DIII World Series.

"We have to win the games when it matters," Wren said.

"We have to approach each game like everything is on the line."

### sportsSCENE

## Heads Up



Photo by Namoni Jackson

**LOOKING FOR AN OPENING** TJC freshman point guard Victoria Kemokia looks for an open player in the Apache ladies' 107-71 victory against Bossier-Parish Community College on Jan. 29. After winning only 11 games all of last season, the ladies took a 19-3 record into their Feb. 5 game against Kilgore. The team has scored 100 or more points 11 times in 22 games this season.

## SOFTBALL

continued from page 8

college decision was an easy one once the coach was in place at TJC.

"Ever since they announced they were starting this program, we were contacted by tons of kids from anywhere and everywhere," Dickson said. "Tyler is a great location for recruiting."

She added that the California connection comes from her tenure at Howard College in Big Spring. It was hard to recruit players from Texas to move to play in West Texas, so she had to recruit in California and Arizona.

One of her biggest pitches was the athletic success across all sports at TJC. The school currently has 49

national championships, consistently gets opportunities to host national championship tournaments and history has shown that new programs tend to have success almost immediately.

In 2008, women's soccer coach Corey Rose began that program from scratch. In his second year, the Apache ladies were celebrating a national championship.

Dickson is expecting similar success quickly. With her first recruiting class signed and sealed, she is excited about the start of TJC softball next fall, and changing her recruiting strategy from recruiting to start a program to recruiting to a championship program.

## COLUMN

continued from page 8

tennis seasons have begun and golf will get going next month.

One of those teams will win a national title. The question may turn from which team will win the 50th to how many over 50 the school will have before all is said and done at the end of the spring.

The women's basketball season is ranked in the Top 10 nationally and will be the first team to have a legitimate shot at the milestone.

The baseball team finished last year with a No. 7 ranking and is No. 2 this year.

If the 50th title isn't

won by either of those teams, the most legitimate shot will come once the tennis teams reach their postseason. Both the men's and women's teams have won the last five national championships and will be expected to do so again this season. In all, the tennis teams have combined to account for 35 of the school's 49 national championships.

Whether it be baseball or tennis, basketball or golf, the next TJC team to win a national championship will make its mark in the history of the school's athletic programs.

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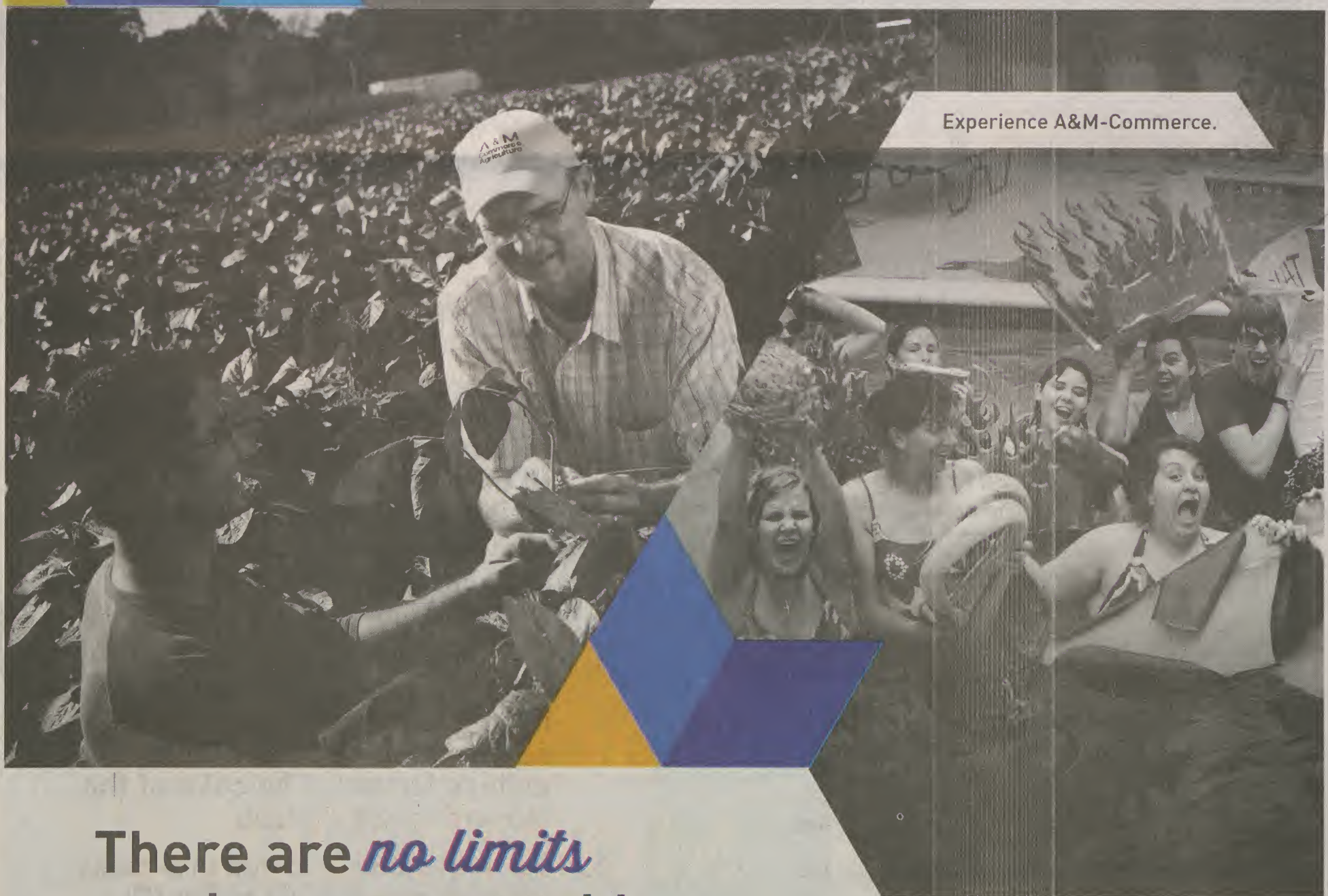
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# Distractions

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THE APACHE POW WOW | PAGE 11

## There's an App for That...

### CamScanner

CamScanner can be useful to students through being able to scan, store, sync, edit and collaborate on various contents across smartphones, iPads, tablets and computers and easily Share PDF/JPEG files. For those who prefer an ad free app, there is paid premium subscription of \$4.99/month or \$49.99/year.



### MP3 Recorder

MP3 Recorder is a free app equipped with a built-in advanced MP3 Converter making this app useful to the student's daily recording usage. All recordings are in MP3 format, without any need of an external converter. There is also a mailing function in the app to share with computers via iTunes (as App documents) or with others via emails. The free version only does three minutes to each recording unless the PRO version is purchased for \$0.99.



### Gas Buddy

Gas Buddy is a free, user supported app that allows you to find the cheapest gas prices in your area. The app is able to accomplish this by allowing users to update local station prices, keeping you up to date.



Users who update gas prices earn points toward daily prize giveaways. Prizes vary, but are generally items like \$100 gift cards toward purchase of gas of the station of your choice. Not only is this app free, but you can make money using it!

### Fitocracy

Fitocracy is a social fitness network that allows users to track their progress and "level up" when they reach certain goals. You can also compete with other users and challenge them to duels. Fitocracy turns working out into a video game. The app is free, however there are upgrades available for \$4.99/mo. The upgrade allows you to send private messages to other users, claim titles, earn badges and even track other user's workout progress in order to better your own routine. If you're ready to get the body of a superhero, Fitocracy is the app for you.



Reviews by Apache Pow Wow Staff

## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

				9			1	
			3	2		5		9
		1				4		7
	5	9			8		6	
		6				8		
	2		6			9	5	
1		4				3		
2				7	3			
				8				

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE 10/20/13

6	9	7	4	8	1	3	2	5
2	1	3	5	7	6	9	8	4
4	8	5	3	9	2	6	7	1
9	3	1	7	6	4	8	5	2
7	6	8	2	1	5	4	9	3
5	2	4	9	3	8	1	6	7
1	7	9	6	2	3	5	4	8
8	4	6	1	5	7	2	3	9
3	5	2	8	4	9	7	1	6

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

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1. Lanyards must be worn around the neck while on campus, and the ID card must be clearly visible at all times, unless it should be removed for safety reasons or an approved ADA variance.
2. Any lanyard is acceptable, but it must be similar in design and worn in the same manner as the official college lanyard. The color of the lanyard is not critical.
3. No one will be allowed into class without wearing his or her ID/ lanyard.
4. Students who do not have their ID/ Lanyards may pick up a Day Pass at the Campus Safety Office, Campus Safety Substation located at the Rogers Student Center or from a TJC Ambassador. The first Day Pass each semester is free of charge. For all subsequent Day Passes a \$5.00 cost recovery charge will be billed to the student's account.
5. Employees may obtain a Day ID/ Lanyard from their respective Dean's or Director's office.



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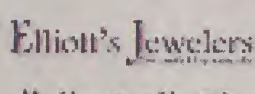
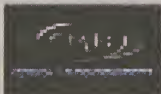
12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

for pre-registration & details:

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# THE ACTORS PREPARATORY EXCHANGE AIMS TO MISBEHAVE

By Cory McCoy  
Executive Editor

The Actor's Preparatory Exchange is pushing Tyler's theatre scene into areas that other production companies wouldn't have dared to delve into just a few years ago.

With shows like 'Equus', 'Rent', 'Nevermore' and the upcoming 'Venus in Fur', East Texans are seeing a whole new type of performance. TJC theatre students have been integral to bringing these roles to life in each of these performances.

"(TJC has) a great talent pool that I never was aware existed in Tyler when I was with the Tyler Civic Theatre. When we did rent ... we had a big moment from TJC," said Chris Abraham, co-founder of the APEX theatre and interim screen and stage performer.

Before moving back to Texas, Abraham was an active actor and producer in California from 1986-2001. Unable to find work in the Arts, Abraham began a new career with the booming oil and gas industry.

After moving back to Tyler he became involved with the Tyler Civic Theatre in 2007, where he met Felicity Enas.

"I first met Felicity at the Tyler Civic Theatre when she was the creative director there. She is a product of the British theatre of the 1970s. She's great with nonconformist places, minimal spaces," said Abraham.

Enas and Abraham co-founded the APEX Theatre 20 in 2012 to bring their unique take on acting to East Texas theatre enthusiasts. Since the theatre's inception they've found a niche performing plays that many in the area would deem too controversial.

This niche seems to be a huge draw for TJC students looking for acting lessons and experience that will push them and their skills in new and unique ways.

"The thing that I learned when I left TJC, when I left Tyler, is that smaller brings out more intimate things," said returning student Josh Carpenter. Carpenter was very successful in Los Angeles as an actor, his IMDB page boasting a wide variety of credits with the most recent being "The Blind Artist". "The Blind Artist" is a short film directed by TJC's Assistant Director of the Center for Earth and Space Science Education, Justin Parish. The short was selected for Best of the Fest and won Best Comedy at the 2013 Downtown Tyler Film Festival.

Carpenter, an education major, just wrapped up his directorial debut with Matt Riney's "Nevermore". "Nevermore" is an amalgamation of some of Edgar Allen Poe's most enduring works transplanted into his life.

In addition to the performance, Carpenter has brought in local artists' work to display in the lobby and even managed to surprise audiences with live performances of the play's music by composer Lacie Carpenter.

The APEX Theatre wants to create more than just a performance-based relationship with TJC students, they aim to bring in artists and musicians as well. The Theatre is providing bold new opportunities for those willing to put in the effort.

Deshawn Weston, a sophomore theatre major, calls working with APEX on "Rent" one of the best experiences he has had since moving to Tyler. Hannah Johnson, a Journalism and Theatre double major played the role of Mimi in both runs of the play.

Perhaps the apex of the cast's professionalism and cohesiveness came during the last showing of Rent when the fog machines set off the Liberty Theatre's fire alarms. After the theatre's alarms shut down all systems and the patrons safely found their way outside, the cast gathered together and picked up exactly where they left off on the sidewalks of downtown.



Photos By Cory McCoy  
Josh Carpenter preps behind the scenes of "Rent". (Above)  
Megan Hutching torments Edgar Allen Poe, Mark Stewart, as the ghost of his long lost love Lenore (Left inset)

Photos By Cory McCoy  
Hannah Johnson, left, Matthew Butler, far right, and Josh Carpenter, second from right, take the stage at the Liberty for "Rent" (Below)  
J.C. Schmidt, a TJC alumnus, hits all the right notes during his character's defining scene. (Background)



The Actor's Preparatory Exchange is located at 20 Potter Place at the rear entrance to the Energy Building, just off of Front Street. For more information call (903) 740-5387 or email [info@apextheatre20.com](mailto:info@apextheatre20.com). Tickets for upcoming shows are available at [apextheatre20.com/tickets/](http://apextheatre20.com/tickets/)